

Application No. 10/825,531

Reply to Office Action

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, prior to "TECHNICAL FIELD" (previously added by way of the "Preliminary Amendment" dated April 15, 2004) with:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of ~~co~~pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/151,813, filed May 22, 2002, issued as U.S. Patent 6,753,346, which is a ~~divisional~~ continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/367,299, filed December 23, 1999, issued as U.S. Patent 6,426,365, which is the U.S. national phase of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP98/00542, filed February 10, 1998.